



Emission Check

You're on the Road to Cleaner Air.

Repairing your gasoline vehicle's pollution control system

What's inside

- ✓ **Informational Section - General repair information**
- ✓ **Repair Facilities - Where to find Authorized Emission**
- ✓ **Specialists in King and Snohomish counties**
- ✓ **Waiver Checklist**

Date Printed: December 19, 2005

Test Station Hours

Monday through Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm

Saturday 9:00am to 1:00pm

Closed Sunday, and State Holidays

Test fee \$15.00 (cash, check, or credit card)

Introduction

The emission check inspection process itself will change as Ecology implements test procedures to help the Puget Sound region continue meeting federal air-quality standards:

- * **Dynamometers are here.** The test-station attendant "drives" the vehicle on rollers set in the floor to simulate on-road acceleration. Heavy-duty and full time four-wheel-drive vehicles won't use this test.
- * **Gas-cap leak checks.** Worn seals on gas caps allow fuel vapor to leak into the air even when the vehicle isn't running. Leaky gas caps also defeat other parts of the evaporative emission-control system.
- * **Most 1996 and newer gasoline cars and light trucks will receive an "on-board diagnostics" test** instead of a tailpipe check. The attendant will plug a data cable into the vehicle's computer to download information on emission-related engine conditions. The test will prevent high emissions before they occur.
- * **Diesel cars and light trucks will receive dynamometer inspections.** Heavy-duty diesel trucks will continue to receive the current "snap-idle" test, a series of brief engine revivings.

Each year, about 900,000 vehicles undergo exhaust inspections statewide. Repairs to vehicles with excessive emissions reduce overall tailpipe pollution by 20 percent. Emission checks prevent more than 146,000 tons of air pollution a year and are a major part of local clean-air efforts in the Puget Sound, Spokane and Portland-Vancouver regions. Modern motor vehicles are built with features designed to control air pollution. Unfortunately, something is not functioning properly with your vehicle. As a result, your emission check revealed excessive emissions. Since some pollutants such as Carbon Monoxide, are not easily recognizable until health problems occur, you may not have noticed any problem with your vehicle.

Successful repairs to vehicles with excessive emissions help provide cleaner, healthier air for all of us. This information packet is designed to assist you in obtaining appropriate repairs to pass a re-check or to qualify your vehicle for a "repair waiver".

Your \$15 Emission Check fee includes **one re-check after an initial failed test for the calendar year at no additional charge.** You may re-check your vehicle as many times as you wish, however only the initial recheck is free during that calendar year, after that **each additional emission check costs \$15 each.**

Have your vehicle repaired and re-checked

About 85 percent of the vehicles that fail their initial "emission check" pass the re-check. You may perform your own repairs. However, if you perform your own repairs, be aware that: *only appropriate repairs that are directed toward reducing failed emissions, or computer OBDII designated codes, and are performed by an Ecology Emission Specialist can qualify for a Certificate of Acceptance (waiver).* The Department of Ecology recommends that you have diagnosis and repairs performed by an Ecology Authorized Emission Specialist. A list of more than 300 repair facilities that employ Authorized Emission Specialists begins on page 4. These technicians have received special training and are familiar with Emission Check program requirements. *Shops that have an asterisk (*) in front of their shop name do not at this time have the equipment to perform OBDII repairs.*

Identifying and correcting the problem that is causing your vehicle to have high emissions will benefit your vehicle and help control air pollution. After repairs are performed, you need to have the vehicle re-checked at an Emission Check station. If your vehicle passes a re-check you will receive a Vehicle Emission Test Report which certifies your vehicle has passed. Present or send this report to your vehicle-licensing agent when registering your vehicle.

Appropriate repairs

The best emission inspection in the world won't improve air quality without appropriate repairs. An appropriate repair is the diagnosis of the cause(s) of an emission test failure and the attempted repair of one or more of these causes. An appropriate repair should attempt to reduce at least one failing emission test reading, or identify and attempt to repair emission system failures identified by OBDII tests. Repairs and adjustments should be made to manufacturer specifications. Below is a guide to appropriate repairs by category. Note: Vehicle emission systems and the names associated with them vary by manufacturer and are too numerous to list here.

Hydrocarbon (HC) emissions

Hydrocarbons are unburned fuel. Mechanical/electrical failures, vacuum leaks, or a very lean air/fuel mixture can cause HC failures. Here are some examples of appropriate hydrocarbon repairs:

- Ignition system repairs.
- Mechanical (engine) repairs and/or adjustments (e.g., valve adjustments).
- Carburetor or fuel injection system repairs or adjustments that correct lean misfire conditions

Carbon Monoxide (CO) emissions

Carbon monoxide is partially burned fuel. CO is a colorless, odorless, toxic gas. High levels of carbon monoxide indicate that the engine is getting too much fuel, and not enough air. Here are examples of appropriate carbon monoxide repairs:

- Carburetor or fuel injection system repairs or adjustments.
- Emission control system repairs associated with fuel delivery.
- Computer air/fuel management and associated components.

Note: A carbon monoxide failure during the 2500-RPM mode portion of the inspection cannot be adjusted using the idle air/fuel mixture screw(s). A failure of this type requires professional diagnosis and repair by a qualified technician. (Authorized Emission Specialist)

Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) emissions

Carbon dioxide is a by-product of the internal combustion engine. Low CO₂ failures may be caused by a leaking exhaust system, or by extremely high emission levels. If your vehicle failed the CO₂ portion of the inspection, you should have the exhaust system inspected. If no exhaust leaks are found, a check for extremely high emissions should be made. Here are repair examples of increasing CO₂ appropriately:

- Catalytic converter replacement.
- Air injection system (tube) repairs.

Note: Other exhaust system repairs, such as mufflers and tailpipes, are not applicable toward a Certificate of Acceptance (waiver) because they do not reduce exhaust emissions.

Excessive idle speed (over 1100 RPM)

Emission inspections cannot be completed on vehicles that have an idle speed that exceeds 1100 RPM at the time of inspection. (Unless the vehicle manufacturer's specifications REQUIRE an idle speed in excess of 1100 RPM.) You should have ONLY the vehicle idle speed checked and/or adjusted to manufacturer specifications, which will allow the vehicle to complete the emission inspection.

Note: Costs associated with idle speed repairs/adjustments prior to an inspection cannot be used toward obtaining a Certificate of Acceptance (waiver).

Repair Waivers

The Legislature sets limits of how much you must spend to repair your vehicle. If your repair costs reach this limit, your vehicle may qualify for a "repair waiver", subject to certain conditions. Use the checklist on the back cover of this guide to make sure you complete **ALL** of the steps of the repair waiver process. When repairing your vehicle, take your copy of the Vehicle Inspection Report and show it to the technician. This report will aid them in diagnosing and repairing your vehicle. This form will be signed and returned after repairs/adjustments are made.

Emission Check Tips

It is important that your vehicle's engine and catalytic converter are at normal operating temperature during the emission check, to avoid unnecessary failure. Here are some tips:

- Avoid waiting if possible. Lines tend to be shorter in the middle of the month and in the afternoon.
- Avoid Monday's if you can.
- Bring your vehicle to normal operating temperature. A 10 mile drive, especially at freeway speed, should accomplish this.
- Turn off all accessories (air conditioner, lights, wipers, heater, radio, etc.) when you arrive at the test station.
- While in line, keep the engine at normal operating temperature. *Do not* shut off the engine unless instructed to do so.

Questions?

If you have questions concerning your vehicles emission check failure, please see the manager of the inspection facility. Technical assistance is also available from the Department of Ecology. In King and Snohomish counties, call (425) 649-7021 (local) or 1 800 272-3780 (toll free) between 8 AM and 5 PM Monday through Friday.

Repair Waiver Checklist

- ☒ **Vehicle fails an emission check.** The process starts here. Money spent on maintenance or repairs prior to the initial test do not count toward a waiver.
- ☐ **Repairs are not covered under warranty (*gasoline vehicles only*).** You may be entitled to free repairs at a dealership or other authorized warranty repair facilities. Most warranties cover only normal use and wear. Some damaged parts may not be covered under warranty.
 - ☐ **1995 and newer models:** Most emission controls are covered under the standard performance warranty for two years or 24,000 miles, whichever comes first. Major emission control components such as the computer and catalytic converters are covered for eight years or 80,000 miles, whichever comes first. For details, check your vehicle's warranty documents.
- ☐ **Repairs and/or Diagnosis are attempted.**
 - ☐ An Ecology Authorized Emission Specialist performs the work at an Ecology-authorized repair facility.
 - ☐ You give your Vehicle Emission Test Report to your specialist who fills it out and returns it to you after doing the repair work.
 - ☐ The specialist signs, numbers and records final emission readings on a pre-printed, itemized repair invoice/receipt on which your vehicle is identified.
 - ☐ Your repair and/or Diagnosis costs **equal or exceed:**
 - ☐ \$150 for 1981 and newer vehicles.
 - ☐ All work is directed at correcting your vehicle's emission check failure. See "Repairs were appropriate," below.
- ☐ **Vehicle is re-checked** at an Emission Check station after the repair attempt.
 - ☐ **Vehicle passes the re-check.** The Emission Check station staff will issue a Vehicle Emission Test Report, which certifies your vehicle has passed. Present or send it to your vehicle-licensing agent when registering your vehicle. ***Disregard the rest of this checklist!***
 - ☐ **Vehicle fails the re-check or not able to complete test because of readiness codes. *Continue through this checklist.***
 - ☐ **Vehicle passes a visual inspection.** To obtain a waiver your vehicle must have:
 - ☐ An engine that is correct for your vehicle. (Contact Ecology for details.)
 - ☐ All required emission control components in place and operational.

Note: there is no cost limit for replacing removed, altered or tampered emission control components. The cost limit applies only to *repairs* to otherwise intact engines and their pollution control systems.

 - ☐ **Repairs and/or Diagnosis were appropriate.** Station staff reviews repair documents to verify that:
 - ☐ Cause(s) diagnosed;
 - ☐ Repairs and/or diagnosis are directed at cause(s) of failure
- ☐ **Certificate of Acceptance (repair waiver) is issued** to you by the Emission Check station staff. Your licensing agent will accept it when you register your vehicle in place of a passing Vehicle Emission Test Report.

Air Quality Program Internet Address: www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/cars/automotive_pages.htm



Emission Check

You're on the Road to Cleaner Air.

State Emissions Inspection Stations owned and operated by
Applus Technologies, Inc.

Gasoline, Diesel and OBDII Vehicle Repair Guide & General Information

- ✓ Where to find authorized Emission Specialists in
Clark, Cowlitz and Multnomah Counties
- ✓ Repair Waiver Checklist
- ✓ Dealing with an Auto Repair Facility

Emission Inspection Station Hours
Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Closed Sunday and State Holidays
Test fee is \$15

Important information enclosed in this document!

*If after reviewing this document and you still need assistance from the
Department of Ecology – Please call: 1-800-453-4951
Mon – Fri / 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m
(except state holidays)*

November 15, 2005

Air Quality Program Internet Address: www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/airhome.html

Introduction

Today's motor vehicles are built with features to control air pollution. Unfortunately, your vehicle's emission check revealed excessive emissions.

Repairs to vehicles with excessive emissions helps provide cleaner, healthier air for all of us. This information packet describes what must be done to pass a re-check or to qualify your vehicle for a "waiver" from meeting the emission limits.

Your \$15 Emission Check fee includes **one re-check at no additional charge**. You may have as many re-checks as your wish, but **only the first retest is free**. After that, **each additional emission check costs \$15 each**.

Have your vehicle repaired and re-checked

About 80 percent of the vehicles that fail their initial emission check pass the re-check. Your Vehicle Emission Test Report provides data that can be useful to the person making the repairs.

You may perform the repairs yourself or hire someone to do them. The Department of Ecology recommends that you have the repairs done by an Ecology Authorized Emission Specialist. A list of repair facilities that employ these specialists in Clark county begins on page 4. These technicians have received special training and are familiar with the Emission Check program repair requirements. **Please note—only repairs performed by an Ecology Authorized Emission Specialist at an Ecology authorized repair facility can qualify your vehicle for a waiver.**

Finding and correcting the problem that is causing your vehicle to have high emissions will benefit your vehicle and help control air pollution (*see before for more information on applicable repairs*). After repairs are made, have the vehicle re-checked at an Emission Check Station. If your vehicle passes a re-check you will receive a Vehicle Emission Test Report which certifies your vehicle has passed. Present or send it to your vehicle-licensing agent when registering your vehicle.

The repair waiver

The Emission Check program set some limits on how much you must spend to repair your vehicle. If your repair costs reach or exceed this amount your vehicle may qualify for a waiver from the emission limits, subject to certain conditions. Use the checklist on page 8 to make sure you have completed all the steps of the repair waiver process.

Examples of applicable repairs

The following is a guide only. Vehicle emission systems and names that are associated with them vary by manufacturer and are too numerous to list here.

Carbon Monoxide (CO) Emission Check Failures

Carbon monoxide is partially burned fuel. It indicates that the engine is getting too much fuel and/or not enough air. Here are examples of potentially appropriate repairs:

- Carburetor or fuel injection system repairs or adjustments
- Emission control system repairs associated with air/fuel delivery
- Engine management or computer system repairs
- **Note:** A CO failure at speeds above idle usually requires professional diagnosis and repair of the fuel system by a qualified repair technician.

Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) Emission Check Failures

Carbon Dioxide is a by-product of the internal combustion engine. It is measured (added with the Carbon Monoxide reading) to help determine if the testing equipment is getting a proper sample of the exhaust. The minimum standard for this category/field is 6%. Carbon Dioxide failures are most often caused by leaking (or restricted) exhaust systems, but can also be caused by other emissions that are extremely high.

Hydrocarbon (HC) Emission Check Failures

Hydrocarbons are unburned fuel. HC failure can be caused by mechanical/ignition system failures, vacuum leaks, or a lean air/fuel mixture. Here are examples of potentially appropriate repairs:

- Ignition system repairs
- Carburation or fuel injection system repairs or adjustments
- Mechanical (engine) repairs
- Emission control system repairs
- Vacuum circuit repairs

On Board Diagnostic (OBDII) Failures

If your vehicle is a 1996 and newer and failed the OBDII test, please have repairs done at a shop that does not have an * to receive a repair waiver (see page 8). Most shops listed have an OBDII specialist and can repair the failure.

Be sure to complete the vehicle's drive cycle after repairs before attempting to retest.

PLEASE NOTE: *Exhaust system repairs (such as mufflers and tailpipes) are not applicable toward a repair waiver because they do not reduce emissions. Catalytic converters and air injection tubes are the only applicable exhaust repairs.*

Emission Check Stations

Clark County

Vancouver..... 14110 NW 3rd Court

Vancouver East..... 1121 NE 136th Avenue

HOURS: Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 9a.m. to 1:00p.m.

Closed Sunday and State Holidays

For more information from Ecology: Call toll free 1-800-453-4951 (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) weekdays.

*If you have special accommodation needs, please contact Sandi Newton, Air Quality Program
at (360) 407-6826 (voice) or (360) 407-6006 (TDD).*

Emission Check Tips

It is important that your vehicle's engine and catalytic converter are at normal operating temperature during the emission check, to avoid unnecessary failure. Here are some tips:

- **The vehicles engine rpm must be below 1100 rpm.**
- **Avoid waiting.** Lines tend to be shorter in the middle of the month.
- **Bring your vehicle to normal operating temperature.** A 10-mile drive (especially at freeway speed) will accomplish this.
- **Turn off all accessories** (air conditioner, lights, wipers, heater, radio, etc.) when you arrive at the test station.
- **While in line,** keep engine at normal operating temperature. **Do not** shut off the engine.
- **If you have a locking gas cap,** bring your gas cap key with you. The vehicle gas cap must be accessible.
- If your vehicle failed only the gas cap test you still need to return with your vehicle.

Authorized Gasoline Emission Specialists (Diesel Emission Specialists on Page 7)

Clark, Cowlitz, and Multnomah Counties

Important Notice: This list shows repair facilities with approved emissions testing equipment and one or more Ecology Authorized Emission Specialists. Please be aware that some technicians at a repair facility may not be Authorized Emission Specialists. Also, staff turnover may occur at any repair facility.

Always request that your vehicle's emission repairs be performed by a Department of Ecology Authorized Gasoline Emission Specialist. You may request to see the Specialist's certificate

Battle Ground

Art Morse Auto Repair 1713 West Main Street
.....(360)687-4685
Battle Ground Chevron..... 409 East Main Street
.....(360)687-2441
Battle Ground Motors 715 SE 1st Street
.....(360)687-2282
Martin's Auto Clinic..... 8206-219th Street
.....(360)687-0239

Brush Prairie

Froh's Garage 13010 NE 212th Avenue
.....(360)892-6264
Hockinson Auto Works 15901 NE 182nd Avenue
.....(360)256-1613

Camas

Lemon-Aid Automotive 425 NE Birch Street
.....(360)833-2838
The Shop..... 3600 NE 242nd Avenue
.....(360)834-4023

Hazel Dell

Art Kuzma Motor 6504 NE Hwy 99
.....(360)694-3385
A & M Auto & Truck Repair.. 1205-B NE 95th Street
.....(360)574-3484

Gaynor's Automotive 9305 A NE Hwy 99
.....(360)574-4416
Gaynor's Automotive North 14001-A1 NE 3rd Ct
.....(360)576-4056
Matt's Alignment and Brake
..... 10018 NE 13th Avenue
.....(360)695-9195
My Daddy's Muffler Shop..... 6900-D NE Hwy 99
.....(360)695-0435
My Daddy's Automotive 6900 NE Hwy 99
.....(360)695-7778
Robin's Automotive 800 NE 86th Street
.....(360)514-8330
Ron's Automotive (Hazel Dell)..... 7818 NE 30th Ave
.....(360)574-2233
Smitty's Muffler and Repair.. 1321 NE 76th Street #E
.....(360)906-0399
Dick Hannah Kia 1200 NE 95th Street
.....(360)574-4424
Zinda and Sons 9014 NE St Johns Rd Suite C
.....(360)573-1622

Orchards

Just Right Auto Repair II 13106 NE 4th Plain Rd
.....(360)253-4599
Independent Auto Inc. 12209-A NE 4th Plain Blvd
.....(360)253-7111

*=not OBDII Authorized Shops

Mike's Import Repair.....10907 NE 117th Ave
(360)892-7110
 Orchards Automotive13314 4th Plain Rd
(360)254-4198
 Ron's Automotive & RV 10602 NE 4th Plain Rd
(360)256-7035
 Ron's Automotive Orchards 11610 NE 65th Street
(360)882-9600
 Tom's Performance Machine
 6707 NE 117th Avenue, Bldg C-101
(360)256-1722
 Unlimited V-Dub Svc & Parts
 11408-A NE Rosewood Avenue
(360)256-3560

Ridgefield

Bob's Automotive..... 327 Pioneer Street
(360)887-8351

Vancouver

Carr Vancouver.....901 C Street
(360)693-1481
 Clarkes Discount Inc..... 6424 NE 4th Plain Blvd
(360)750-7755
 Clarkes European Inc.....2612 Main Street
(360)696-0204
 Curt Warner Chevrolet..... 10811 SE Mill Plain Rd
(360)892-0900
 D & E Auto Care2501 NE 65th Avenue
(360)693-4659
 Dick Hannah Honda3321 NE Auto Mall Drive
(360)256-5000

*=not OBDII Authorized Shops

Dick Hannah Jeep-Eagle/Subaru
 7407 Vancouver Plaza Dr
(360)256-5000
 Ding's Frame & Axle 1505 Columbia
(360)694-7599
 Don Lorentz Auto Care Center..... 1714 Broadway
(360)699-4711
 Gaynor's Automotive1416 B Broadway
(360)906-8000
 Gemini Automotive of Goodyear
2525 NE Andresen Rd
(360)891-9819
 Gemini II Automotive of Goodyear
316 SE 123rd Avenue
(360)891-9830
 M&M Auto Repair 14011 SE Mill Plain Blvd
(360)896-5854
 Wrench-N-Time..... 800 Grand Blvd
(360)695-6526
 Just Right Auto Repair ... 4706 NE Minnehaha Street
(360)695-2011
 Marv's Auto Repair 6015 NE 88th Street
(360)574-3961
 Master Tech Automotive I.....
 9400 NE Vancouver Mall Drive
(360)892-5638
 Master Tech Automotive II ... 13317 NE4th Plain Rd
(360)944-3160
 Master Tech Automotive IV 16215 NE15th Street
 360-260-3630
 Peter's Import2130 East Evergreen Blvd
(360)695-9008
 Precision Tune 6920 East 4th Plain Blvd
(360)693-3933
 Richey's Tire(360)254-0440
10512 SE Mill Plane Blvd

Re-born Auto Repair..... 5404 NE St. Johns Rd
(360)694-1780
 Ron's Automotive Inc. (Cascade Park)
 16211 SE 1st Avenue
(360)253-6000
 Stevens Auto Service200 West McLoughlin Blvd
(360)695-9175
 Woody's 4X4.....6408 St. Johns Rd
(360)693-6840

Washougal

B & B Automotive 984-17th Street
(360)835-5191
 Classic Muffler, Automotive and Brake
 730 E Street
(360)335-0522
 Hi-Way Fuel Automotive 1250 E. Street
(360)835-2737
 Mike's Auto 415 NE 312th Avenue
(360)835-3037

*=not OBDII Authorized Shops

Woodland

Lewis River Motors-Chevrolet/Olds
 1061 Dale Street
(360)225-8213
 Dave's Garage 535 Park Street
(360)225-9616

OREGON STATE

Portland

Burnside Auto Repair 2546 E Burnside
(503)234-7900
 Clemen's Automotive 3401 North Lombard
(503)285-4838
 Expert Auto Repair 1525 SE MLK JR. Blvd
(503)230-9938
 Gary's Auto Care 233 NE Columbia Blvd
(503)286-9851
 Hartmann Motors Unlimited..... 101 SW Gibbs Street
(503)227-6898
 Hawthorne Auto Clinic.....4307 SE Hawthorne Blvd
(503)234-2119
 Re-born Auto of Portland
 1800 SE Martin LutherKing
(503)235-5951
 Ken VanDamme's Automotive
6143 NE Sandy Blvd
(503)284-7819
 Morgan's Mechanical 1737 SE Rhine St
(503)231-6677

Authorized Diesel Emission Specialists

Clark County, Washington

Battle Ground

Martin's Auto Clinic 8206 219th Street
.....(360)687-0239
Paul's Quality Repair..... 32707 NE Sako Drive
.....(360) 687-2359

Vancouver

Carr Vancouver.....901 C Street
.....(503)693-1481
Clarke's European Inc2612 Main Street
.....(360)696-0204
Ding's Frame and Axle.....1505 Columbia Street
.....(360)694-7599
Just Right Auto Repair.... 4706 NE Minnehaha Street
.....(360)695-2011
Ron's Automotive Orchards 11610 NE 65th Street
.....(360)882-9600
S & D Truck Service 3203 NE 65th Street #2
.....(360)254-4353
Smitty's Muffler & Repair ...1321 NE 76th Street # E
.....(360)906-0399

Multnomah County, Oregon

Portland

Cummins Northwest 4711 N Basin Avenue
.....(503)289-0900

Consumer Resources Centers Office of the Attorney General

E-mail protect@atg.wa.gov

Web site www.wa.gov/ago/consumer

Statewide (800) 551-4636 Voice
(800) 276-9883 Hearing Impaired (TDD)

Repair Waiver Checklist ☒

☐ **Vehicle fails an emission check.**

The process starts here. **Money spent on maintenance or repairs prior to the initial test does not count towards a waiver.**

☐ **Repairs are not covered under warranty (gasoline vehicles only).**

You may be entitled to free repairs at a dealership or other authorized warranty repair facility. Most warranties cover only normal use and wear. Some damaged parts may not be covered under warranty.

- ◆ For more information on warranty coverage, consult your owner's warranty information book.

☐ **Repairs are performed.**

- ◆ By an Ecology Authorized Emission Specialist (AES) performs repairs at an Ecology authorized repair facility.
- ◆ You give your Vehicle Emission Test Report to the AES technician who will fill it out and return to you after doing the repair work. You must submit the test report(s) when applying for a waiver.
- ◆ The AES technician signs, numbers, and records the final emission readings on a pre-printed, itemized repair invoice/receipt on which your vehicle is identified.
- ◆ Your repair/diagnosis costs reach (at minimum): \$150.00 for 1981 or newer vehicles.
- ◆ All work is directed at correcting your vehicle's emission check failure.

☐ **Vehicle is re-checked** at an Emission Check Station after the repair work is completed.

- ◆ **Vehicle passes the re-check.** The Emission Check Station staff will issue a Vehicle Emission Test Report, which certified your vehicle has passed. Present or send it to your vehicle licensing agent when registering your vehicle (**if your vehicle passes, disregard the rest of this checklist**).
- ◆ **Vehicle fails the re-check—*continue through this checklist*.**
- ◆ **Vehicle passes a visual inspection.** To obtain a waiver your vehicle must have:
 1. An engine that is correct for your vehicle. (Contact Department of Ecology for details.)
 2. All required emission control components in place and operational (**factory stock – see under hood label**).

NOTE: There is no cost limit for replacing removed, altered, or tampered emission control components. The cost limit applies only to *repairs* to otherwise intact engines and their pollution control systems.

☐ **Repairs were appropriate.** Test station office staff will review repair documentation and final test results to verify that:

1. Cause(s) of failure was diagnosed;
2. Repairs were directed at cause(s) of failure; and

☐ **Certificate of Acceptance (repair waiver) is issued** to you by the Emission Check Station office staff.

The licensing agent will accept this repair waiver in place of passing Vehicle Emission Test Report when your vehicle license is renewed/registered.

Dealing with an Auto Repair Facility:

The best time to look for an auto repair facility is before you need one, when you have the time to shop around. In looking for an auto repair facility, ask for recommendations. The best referrals are from family and friends who have had positive experiences with a repair facility. But ask the facility for references and then check them out. You can contact the Better Business Bureau or AAA to find out what kind of consumer record the facility has. When you have chosen a facility you like and that is technically competent to do the work, remember two key rules: **Only work that you authorized can be performed and you should keep written records.**

Dealing with an Auto Repair Facility *(continued)*

The first step in dealing with a repair problem is to check and see if the parts or service you need are covered by an existing warranty. If so, ask if the repair facility will honor the parts warranty and whether it provides a written warranty on its own work. You will need an estimate that includes the condition to be repaired, parts needed, and labor charges. Be sure to determine in advance if there is a diagnostic charge. If the estimate seems high, ask for an explanation and get a second opinion before authorizing any work.

Important steps to follow when dealing with the repair facility:

1. You must ask for the damaged parts to be shown or returned to you (if you would like them) *before* the work is done.
2. If the repairs cost more than \$100, you are entitled to a written estimate. You must authorize the work to be done. The repair facility must also provide you with a written invoice after all work is performed. Compare this invoice to the original authorized estimate.
3. If the customer refuses to pay charges that are within 110 percent of the original authorized estimate (including any subsequent authorizations) the facility owner/manager can hold the car until the bill is paid. The facility must notify you and receive either your written or oral approval to do any extra work that will increase the cost more than 10 percent above the original authorized estimate.
4. Make sure you have a copy of the warranty if one is provided. Get all promises in writing.

Resolving Repair Complaints:

The hints offered above will help in getting through typical experiences at an auto repair facility. However, some problems inevitably arise.

Authorized repairs proved inadequate to repair car: Before you blame the facility owner/manager for ripping you off, consider whether you authorized the needed repairs or tried to get by with the minimum, which proved insufficient. All too often we gamble on the cheap fix and it fails.

The customer is not satisfied with the vehicle after the repair: If the facility offers a warranty, return to the facility. Discuss the situation with the owner/manager and determine where the problem lies—miscommunication, poor workmanship, or faulty parts.

Once you have identified the problem, address it. Do not become part of the problem. Get organized and be prepared to negotiate. Try to work it out in a reasonable manner with the facility owner/manager. Show copies of the estimate or other documentation that supports your position. Listen carefully to the facility's position and be prepared to compromise towards a fair solution.

No luck with the repair facility owner? Consider these options:

- ◆ The Consumer Resource Center, Office of the Attorney General, offers mediation services(see page 7)
- ◆ Ask the owner/manager to resolve the dispute through arbitration/mediation (for example, AAA, the Better Business Bureau, or a Dispute Resolution Center).
- ◆ Pursue the case through small claims court. Note—you can only sue for money in Small Claims Court. The Court cannot order your car to be fixed.
- ◆ You may need to consult an attorney for further options.

Reprinted with permission from the Consumer Protection Division of the Washington State Attorney General's office



Emission Check

You're on the Road to Cleaner Air.

HOURS: Monday – Friday 9 am to 5 pm Saturday 9 am to 1 pm

CLOSED: Sunday and most State Holidays

TEST FEE: \$15.00 Cash Check Credit Card

East Spokane: 16309 E. Marietta Lane (just off N. Sullivan in the Industrial Park area.)

North Spokane: 920 N. Hamilton (corner of Cataldo and Hamilton near Gonzaga University.)

Repairing your Gasoline vehicle for On Board Diagnostics (OBD II) Failures

General information

**Where to find Authorized Emission Specialists
in Spokane and Surrounding areas**

Repair waiver checklist

October 26, 2005

For additional information or assistance in passing the OBDII Emissions Test contact:

**Department of Ecology – Spokane Office
4601 N. Monroe Street
Spokane, WA 99205-1295
(509) 329-3491**

If you require this publication in an alternate format, please contact Tami Dahlgren at (360) 407-6830
or TTY (for the speech or hearing impaired) 711 or 1 (800) 833-6388

8/22/05

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Introduction

Today's motor vehicles are built with features to control air pollution. Unfortunately, your recent emission check revealed excessive emissions.

Repairs to vehicles with excessive emissions help provide cleaner, healthier air for all of us. This information packet describes what must be done to pass a re-check or to qualify your vehicle for a "waiver" from meeting the emission limits.

Your \$15 Emission Check fee includes **one re-check at no additional charge**. You may have as many re-checks as you wish, but only the first one is free. After that, each additional test costs \$15 each.

Something new to Spokane County – On-Board Diagnostics (OBDII)

Have you ever waited in line to emission test your vehicle and wondered why modern technology hasn't produced a better motor vehicle testing system? Now, when you take your car to the test station, you may be able to reap the benefits of a new, more efficient test made possible by computer technology. As of July 2002, most 1996 and newer gasoline cars and light-duty trucks that get an emission check will be tested using this computer technology, call "on-board diagnostics" or OBDII, rather than a tailpipe test.

What is an on-board diagnostic (OBDII) system? OBD systems are computerized systems that monitor the mechanisms making up motor vehicle emission systems and key engine components. OBD systems can detect problems with emission control equipment that, if not repaired, will result in more pollution coming from your vehicle. When the system detects such a problem, it turns on a dashboard warning light to alert the driver that the vehicle should be checked by a repair technician – much like the way the oil light appears when a vehicle is low on oil.

Which vehicles get the OBDII test? Gasoline-powered cars and light duty (up to 8,500 GVW) that are 1996 and newer will be OBDII tested. Older vehicles don't have the same computer systems, so this kind of test won't work for them.

The lane operator will only test those vehicles with easily accessible OBDII systems. Vehicles with hard-to-access systems will be given a tailpipe test.

How is the OBDII test done? When you take your vehicle to the emission test station, the lane operator will plug in a cable to the vehicle's computer to download emission-related information. This does not affect the vehicle other than to read emission system information.

Why is this test being required now? The federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has recognized that the OBDII test is a better tool for identifying polluting vehicles. The OBDII test is quicker and more effective than a tailpipe test, and provides more specific information about what need to be repaired. Another advantage is that it can quickly eliminate clean vehicles from needing further action.

Who can fix OBDII related problems? Only qualified, trained technicians with the appropriate diagnostic and repair equipment should conduct OBDII related service. Most repair businesses have the technology and qualified personnel to service 1996 and newer vehicles. If your vehicle fails its emission test, you will be given a list of Department of Ecology authorized repair shops. These shops are required to have the ability to check the on-board diagnostic systems of 1996 and newer vehicles.

Are OBDII related repairs covered under warranty? Federal law requires that emission control systems be warranted for a minimum of two years or 24,000 miles. Warranty coverage for the on-board computer and catalytic converter *only* extends to eight years or 80,000 miles. Check your vehicle's warranty for more information.

Something new to Spokane County - Gas Cap Checks

Effective 7/1/02, Spokane Emission Check stations will require that all gasoline vehicles pass a gas cap check before taking their emission test.

Why test gas caps? The gas cap is an important part of your vehicle's vapor control system. The vapor control system recovers and reuses gasoline vapors, but it can only work if the gas cap is not leaking. A sealed gas cap prevents gasoline vapors from escaping into the air, which causes air pollution and wastes fuel even when your vehicle isn't running. The Seal can appear intact yet still leak.

Which vehicles need a gas cap check? The gas cap check applies to all vehicles with an evaporative control system, starting with 1971 models. By 1985, all trucks, as well as cars, had evaporative control systems.

Will my gas cap pass the test? More than 96 percent (%) of vehicles tested in Washington will pass their gas cap check. In general the older the vehicle, the more likely the cap will fail. But sometimes even **new caps can leak, especially locking caps**.

If my gas cap fails the test, what should I do next? You should replace your gas cap with a new one and then return to the test station. If your vehicle failed **only** the gas cap test, do not return to the test lanes. Go to the station office to have your new gas cap tested. If your vehicle failed **both** the gas cap test and the emission check, return to the test lanes for a re-test.

On Board Diagnostics (OBD II) Certified Repair Shops			
4 Day Auto 7107 N. Campbell Rd	922-6543	Bill Johnsons Auto Service 2515 W. Wellesley	325-3895
5 Mile Auto Center 6606 N. Ash	326-4401	Bob's Service Center 618 W. Francis	467-5493
Aarons Automotive 1923 N. Park Rd.	487-7255	Botzons Automotive 221 S. Dishman Rd.	928-4747
Advanced Automotive 112 N. Park Rd.	926-0925	Brian's Automotive 6328 E. Springfield	535-4194
Advantage Automotive 750 S. Dishman	922-5798	C & H Auto Repair 629 E. North Foothills Dr.	454-5221
Alton's – Hamilton 1821 N. Hamilton	483-7777	Camp Lithia Chevrolet 106 E. Montgomery	456-7840
Alton's – Liberty Lake 22117 E. Country	922-7771	Casey Motors 141 S. Sheridan	455-6969
Alton's – Northpoint 910 E. Holland Rd.	466-7777	Charly's Emission Repair 12125 E. Trent	924-6889
Alton's – Northtown 4504 N. Division St.	489-7777	Dees Auto Service 206 W. Indiana	326-2283
Alton's – South Hill 3030 E. 29 th Ave.	536-7774	Dishman Dodge 7770 E. Sprague	924-3250
Alton's – Valley 3510 N. Sullivan Rd.	927-7778	Divines Auto – Third 203 W. Third Ave.	455-8622
Appleway Chevrolet 8500 E. Sprague Ave.	924-1150	Divines Auto – Grand 3725 S. Grand Blvd	747-4457
Auto Doc 6905 E. Trent	928-9391	Divines Auto – Pines 1520 N. Pines Rd.	922-3911
Auto Service Center 633 N. Madelia	536-7727	Divines Auto – Wellesley 925 E. Wellesley	483-3753
Autocraft Auto Repair 16911 E. Sprague Ave	924-8738	Downtown Honda 1125 W. Third Ave	353-4760
Barton Jeep/Eagle 10819 E. Sprague Ave.	928-1301	Downtown Toyota 1208 W. Third Ave	455-8774
Becker Buick 636 E. Sprague Ave	455-3550	Duanes Automotive Plus 3925 N. Monroe	325-4230
Beeline Auto 15821 Newport Hwy	466-7900	Dusty & Steves 10101 N. Newport Hwy	482-3029
Bekkerings Automotive 8821 N. Division	467-6560	Empire Ford 423 W. Third Ave	458-3230

Ericks Auto Repair 3928 N. Madison	326-5294	Martins Auto Service 9125 E. Trent	928-4204
Foothills Linc/Merc/Mazda 202 E. Foothills Dr.	324-8200	Mechanics Pride Tire & Auto Inc 1002 W. Third Ave.	747-5371
Full Throttle Automotive 1615 E. Holyoke #3	484-2300	Mercedes Benz of Spokane 1027 W. Third Ave.	455-9100
Garland Auto Service 1007 W. Garland	325-4511	Nelson Towing & Repair 627 E. Francis	487-0007
Garrys Auto Repair 11616 E. Montgomery	926-1821	Northgate Imports 9501 N. Newport Hwy	467-8863
George Gee Pontiac/GMC 21502 E. Mission	927-1000	Perfection Tire 604 E. 2 nd Ave.	747-1164
Greenacres Auto Repair 525 N. Barker Rd	925-0728	Petes Garage 2025 E. Riverside	533-0741
Gus Johnson Ford 8300 E. Sprague	924-1000	Preedys Tire & Automotive 703 E. Pacific	534-0417
Hallmark Hyundai 8801 E. Sprague-- <i>Temp Susp-Machine</i>	922-1450	Pro Automotive 3120 E. Garnet	489-5106
Hills Automotive Service 2918 N. Division	326-6400	Pro Tech Automotive & Towing 15716 E. Sprague	892-3694
Honda of Spokane 8325 E. Sprague	927-7000	Ray & Roys Auto Repair 13524 E. Sprague Ave.	926-2967
Hopkins Automotive 3018 N. Nevada	483-3943		
Howes Auto Service 4904 N. Market	701-2658	Saturn of Spokane 1007 W. Second	624-6818
Import Auto Service 3620 N. Nevada	483-3200	Save More Automotive 304 E. Wellesley	482-7283
Import Auto Specialist 4608 E 4th	483-3200		
Indian Trails Service 3333 W. Indian Trails	326-0342	Silver Star Automotive 1227 W. 3 rd Ave – Ste A	835-5334
J & S Automotive 4504 N. Nevada	922-2899	Spokane Auto Care/Engine Sales 1207 E. Francis	489-1262
Jaremko Nissan 6901 E. Sprague-Temp Susp No Tech	924-6242	Spokane Chrysler Plymouth 6818 E. Sprague	926-1501
		Stanley's Service Center 3324 Northwest Blvd	327-1460
Liberty Tire & Auto AKA: American Car Care Centers 15220 E. Sprague	928-7070	Street Pro Automotive 17 S. Fiske St.	535-2516
Lloyds Automotive 8517 E. Sprague Ave.	927-9034	Swedish Motor Car Service 1211 E. Francis	487-3308
Martins Motors 3105 N. Nevada	483-1067	T D C Auto Repair 611 S. Dishman Mica	924-2847
Martins Auto Monroe 2520 N. Monroe	325-4568	Tiny Car Shop 811 E. Rosewood	484-5653

Troy's Tire & Automotive 817 W. 3 rd	456-7777	Walkers Automotive 19009 E. Appleway	922-0468
Troy's Tire & Automotive 15409 N. Newport Hwy	468-7778	Watts Automotive 1312 W. First Ave.	747-3196
Tune Tech – Valley 420 N. Pines	893-8863	Watts Wheel North 520 E. Francis	483-6421
Tune Tech – Division 9029 N. Division	465-8863	Wendle Ford 4727 N. Division	484-4737
Tune Tech – Monroe 3011 N. Monroe	324-8863	Wendle at the Y 9000 N. Division	468-4046
V H Services 12613 E. Sprague Ave.	922-1995	Whitworth Repair Service 11020 Newport Hwy	466-7404
Vandervert Automotive 319 E. Montgomery	487-7720		

10/26/05:pd



Emission Check

You're on the Road to Cleaner Air.

State Emissions Inspection Stations owned and operated by
Applus Technologies, Inc.

Gasoline, Diesel and OBDII Vehicle Repair Guide & General Information

- ✓ Where to find authorized Emission Specialists in
Pierce and Thurston Counties
- ✓ Repair Waiver Checklist
- ✓ Dealing with an Auto Repair Facility

Emission Inspection Station Hours
Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Closed Sunday and State Holidays
Test fee is \$15

Important information enclosed in this document!

*If after reviewing this document and you still need assistance from the
Department of Ecology – Please call: 1-800-453-4951
Mon – Fri / 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m
(except state holidays)*

January 4, 2006

Air Quality Program Internet Address: www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/airhome.html

Introduction

Today's motor vehicles are built with features to control air pollution. Unfortunately, your vehicle's emission check revealed excessive emissions.

Repairs to vehicles with excessive emissions helps provide cleaner, healthier air for all of us. This information packet describes what must be done to pass a re-check or to qualify your vehicle for a "waiver" from meeting the emission limits.

Your \$15 Emission Check fee includes **one re-check at no additional charge**. You may have as many re-checks as your wish, but **only the first retest is free**. After that, **each additional emission check costs \$15 each**.

Have your vehicle repaired and re-checked

About 80 percent of the vehicles that fail their initial emission check pass the re-check. Your Vehicle Emission Test Report provides data that can be useful to the person making the repairs.

You may perform the repairs yourself or hire someone to do them. The Department of Ecology recommends that you have the repairs done by an Ecology Authorized Emission Specialist. A list of repair facilities that employ these specialists in Pierce and Thurston counties begins on page 4. These technicians have received special training and are familiar with the Emission Check program repair requirements. **Please note—only repairs performed by an Ecology Authorized Emission Specialist at an Ecology authorized repair facility can qualify your vehicle for a waiver.**

Finding and correcting the problem that is causing your vehicle to have high emissions will benefit your vehicle and help control air pollution (*see below for more information on applicable repairs*). After repairs are made, have the vehicle re-checked at an Emission Check Station. If your vehicle passes a re-check you will receive a Vehicle Emission Test Report which certifies your vehicle has passed. Present or send it to your vehicle-licensing agent when registering your vehicle.

The repair waiver

The Emission Check program set some limits on how much you must spend to repair your vehicle. If your repair costs reach or exceed this amount your vehicle may qualify for a waiver from the emission limits, subject to certain conditions. Use the checklist on page 8 to make sure you have completed all the steps of the repair waiver process.

Examples of applicable repairs

The following is a guide only. Vehicle emission systems and names that are associated with them vary by manufacturer and are too numerous to list here.

Carbon Monoxide (CO) Emission Check Failures

Carbon monoxide is partially burned fuel. It indicates that the engine is getting too much fuel and/or not enough air. Here are examples of potentially appropriate repairs:

- Carburetor or fuel injection system repairs or adjustments
- Emission control system repairs associated with air/fuel delivery
- Engine management or computer system repairs
- **Note:** A CO failure at speeds above idle usually requires professional diagnosis and repair of the fuel system by a qualified repair technician.

Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) Emission Check Failures

Carbon Dioxide is a by-product of the internal combustion engine. It is measured (added with the Carbon Monoxide reading) to help determine if the testing equipment is getting a proper sample of the exhaust. The minimum standard for this category/field is 6%. Carbon Dioxide failures are most often caused by leaking (or restricted) exhaust systems, but can also be caused by other emissions that are extremely high.

Hydrocarbon (HC) Emission Check Failures

Hydrocarbons are unburned fuel. HC failure can be caused by mechanical/ignition system failures, vacuum leaks, or a lean air/fuel mixture. Here are examples of potentially appropriate repairs:

- Ignition system repairs
- Carburation or fuel injection system repairs or adjustments
- Mechanical (engine) repairs
- Emission control system repairs
- Vacuum circuit repairs

On Board Diagnostic (OBDII) Failures

If your vehicle is a 1996 and newer and failed the OBDII test, please have repairs done at a shop that does not have an * to receive a repair waiver (see page 8). Most shops listed have an OBDII specialist and can repair the failure.

Be sure to complete the vehicle's drive cycle after repairs before attempting to retest.

PLEASE NOTE: *Exhaust system repairs (such as mufflers and tailpipes) are not applicable toward a repair waiver because they do not reduce emissions. Catalytic converters and air injection tubes are the only applicable exhaust repairs.*

Emission Check Stations

Pierce County

Fife.....4912 Pacific Highway East

Puyallup..... 10320 122nd Street East

Lakewood.....107th Street South & 30th Avenue South

HOURS: Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday 9a.m. to 1:00p.m.

Closed Sunday and State Holidays

For more information from Ecology: Call toll free 1-800-453-4951 (8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) weekdays.

If you have special accommodation needs, please contact Sandi Newton, Air Quality Program at (360) 407-6826 (voice) or (360) 407-6006 (TDD).

Emission Check Tips

It is important that your vehicle's engine and catalytic converter are at normal operating temperature during the emission check, to avoid unnecessary failure. Here are some tips:

- **The vehicles engine rpm must be below 1100 rpm.**
- **Avoid waiting.** Lines tend to be shorter in the middle of the month.
- **Bring your vehicle to normal operating temperature.** A 10-mile drive (especially at freeway speed) will accomplish this.
- **Turn off all accessories** (air conditioner, lights, wipers, heater, radio, etc.) when you arrive at the test station.
- **While in line,** keep engine at normal operating temperature. **Do not** shut off the engine.
- **If you have a locking gas cap,** bring your gas cap key with you. The vehicle gas cap must be accessible.
- If your vehicle failed only the gas cap test you still need to return with your vehicle.

Authorized Gasoline Emission Specialists (Diesel Emission Specialists on Page 7)

Pierce and Thurston Counties

Important Notice: This list shows repair facilities with approved emissions testing equipment and one or more Ecology Authorized Emission Specialists. Please be aware that some technicians at a repair facility may not be Authorized Emission Specialists. Also, staff turnover may occur at any repair facility. **Always** request that your vehicle's emission repairs be performed by a Department of Ecology Authorized Gasoline Emission Specialist. You may request to see the Specialist's certificate.

Edgewood

Edgewood Tire & Service Center 623 Meridian East
.....(253) 943-3376
Premium Tune -N-Lube 940 Meridian East
.....(253) 952-8863
Sterling Automotive Service 3121 Meridian East
.....(253) 446-9300

Fife

BMW Northwest 4011 20th Street East
.....(253) 922-8700
Carbs Unlimited 4630-16th Street East #A3
.....(253) 926-2272
Erkers Service 2311 Pacific Highway East
.....(253) 922-8344
Infiniti of Tacoma 4902 Pacific HWY East
.....(253) 231-4300
Larson Mercedes-Benz 4001 20th Street East
.....(253) 922-6820

Fort Lewis

Firestone Bldg. 2204 (PO Box 33988)
.....(253) 964-1090

Gig Harbor

Dave's Auto Repair 915-26th Avenue NW #C8
.....(253) 853-7550
Gig Harbor Unocal Service 4101 Harborview Drive
..... (253) 851-8501
Precision Tune 4802 Pt. Fosdick Drive North
..... (253)-851-6613

Graham

Graham Auto Repair 10015 213th Street East
..... (253) 847-2221

Lacey

Stolz Automotive Experts LLC.. 5711 Lacey Blvd #308
..... (360) 412-8038

Lakewood

Al's Automotive Repair 7901 Steilacoom Blvd
..... (253) 584-9520
Firestone 10501 Gravelly Lake Dr SW
..... (253) 588-6623
Lakewood Auto Repair 6124 Lakegrove SW
..... (253) 584-9470
Leavitt's 76 Service 9202 Washington Blvd
..... (253) 588-4840
Precision Tune 7701 Steilacoom Blvd
..... (253) 581-2443
Premium Fleet Services, Inc 3510 96th Street
..... (253) 582-6610
Ray's Auto Center 5445 Steilacoom Blvd SW
..... (253) 582-3900
Rolf's Import Auto Service 3122 South 96th Street
..... (253) 584-7770
Tveten's Lakewood, Inc. 5425 Lakewood Mall Blvd
..... (253) 588-5201

McChord AFB

Firestone Bldg 543 Main PX
..... (253) 584-6830

Milton

South End Auto Care 8313 Pacific Hwy East
..... (253) 661-0366

*=Not OBDII Authorized Shops

Puyallup

15th Street Automotive 1410 15th Street NW
..... (253) 840-2250

Automotive Experts 116–10th Street SE
..... (253) 845-4802

Big O Tires 4 Less 7728 River Road
..... (253) 848-3538

Corner Garage..... 12811 Canyon Rd E Suite 3
..... (253) 537-8027

Greg's Japanese Auto 12704 Meridian E
..... (253) 604-0800

Goodyear Tire Center of South Hill.. 11904 Meridian E.
..... (253) 840-0995

Friendly Chevrolet of Puyallup..... 400 River Road
..... (253) 845-9566

Korum Ford..... 100 River Road
..... (253) 845-6600

Lou's Automotive 1119 26th Street NW
..... (253) 848-2848

Maximum Performance 16603 Meridian Street
..... (253) 845-2441

Pep Boys 12228 Meridian East
..... (253) 840-1800

Puyallup Nissan/Suzki 711 Meridian North
..... (253) 848-4507

*T and S Specialties 5517–106th Street East
..... (253) 848-9474

Tony's Automotive 1029 East Main Street
..... (253) 841-0601

Toyota of Puyallup..... 1400 River Road
..... (253) 286-6000

Weston's Auto Repair..... 8808 Canyon Road East
..... (253) 531-8882

*=Not OBDII Authorized Shops

Spanaway

Cleon's Auto Repair..... 126–173rd Street East
..... (253) 531-2050

Dave's Auto Repair..... 17725–52nd Avenue Court East
..... (253) 847-2437

Sumner

JFS Automotive..... 15532 East Main Street
..... (253) 863-0414

Tacoma

A&E Automotive Repair & Parts.....
..... 3201 South Tacoma Way
..... (253) 475-4138

Automotive Service Center 3537 Portland Ave East
..... (253) 383-2930

Automotive Specialists..... 11111 Golden Given Rd East
..... (253) 536-9029

Bill's Dyno Tune-up Center 3599 South G
..... (253) 474-9811

Bristow's Exclusive Auto..... 4731 S. Washington Street
..... (253) 471-1663

Cal's Automotive 5832 South Adams
..... (253) 471-8933

Carburetion Technology 4534 S. Washington
..... (253) 472-9667

D & D Automotive Repair..... 2718 Pacific Avenue
..... (253) 383-3307

Don Landis Texaco..... 2518 North Stevens
..... (253) 759-7021

Eagle Tire & Automotive 2522 Pacific Avenue
..... (253) 627-7788

Econo Lube –N- Tune 8724 South Tacoma Way
..... (253) 582-4305

Evergreen Auto Electric 8411 Pacific Hwy East
..... (253) 922-7554

Federal Way Radiator 8116 Pacific Hwy East
 (253) 922-7200
 38th ST. Firestone 2908 South 38th Street
 (253)473-2800
 Goodyear Auto Center 700 Tacoma Mall
 (253) 473-5556
 Jerry's Performance Auto..... 5315 140th Street E
 (253) 535-5865
 Larry's Chevron Service 4401 South 19th Street
 (253) 752-3587
 Midland Automotive 1624-90th Street East
 (253) 531-4331
 Northwest Auto Services..... 9804 ½ McKinley Ave
 (253) 535-6185
 Pessemier's Complete Auto 4905-128th Street East
 (253) 531-5310
 Precision Auto & Trans 3723-6th Avenue
 (253) 759-2044
 Pro Automotive 55106th Avenue #D
 (253)759-9516
 Robert Larson's Autohaus-Audi. 7034 South Tacoma Wy
 (253) 474-0651
 Robert Larson's Autohaus-VW .. 7633 South Tacoma Wy
 (253) 474-0651
 Robert Larson Chrysler-Plymouth
 7601 South Tacoma Way
 (253) 474-0621
 Robert Larson's Toyota..... 7815 South Tacoma Way
 (253) 475-4816
 Sam & Sam Enterprises 8015 McKinley Ave
 (253)473-1560
 Tiny's Garage..... 2612 North Adams Street
 (253) 759-1472

Titus Will Ford 3606 South Sprague Avenue
 (253) 475-4151
 Triple 7 Auto Care..... 6402 McKinley Avenue
 (253)472-7208
 Walt's Automotive & Diagnostics.....
 5002 Portland Ave East
 (253) 475-3424
 Zyggi's Auto Shop..... 3912 South 56th Street
 (253)475-7405

Tillicum

Tillicum Auto Tech 15408 Union Avenue SW
 (253) 582-0405

University Place

Albers Auto Repair 2205-70th Ave West
 (253) 564-3789
 Diagnostic services 2007-A 70th Avenue West
 (253)566-0707
 Firestone-6th Ave. 5907 6th Avenue
 (253)566-8473
 Highland Hill Service 5944-A 6th Avenue
 (253)564-1025
 Narrows Tire..... 6420 6th Avenue
 (253) 564-8722
 Precision Tune 4828 Bridgeport Way
 (253) 566-1620

*=not OBDII Authorized Shops

Authorized Diesel Emission Specialists

Fife

Erker's Service.....2311 Pacific Hwy. East
..... (253) 922-8344
Pacific Coast Truck Center2312 Milwaukee Way
..... (253) 383-3061
Larson Mercedes-Benz..... 4001 20th Street East
.....(253) 922-6820

Lakewood

Dirks Truck Repair2421-110th Street South
..... (253) 584-9180
M&M Truck Maintenance3420 Chapel Street
..... (253)588-8990

Milton

H & H Diesel Service407 Porter Way
.....(253) 922-8786

Puyallup

Brennan Diesel 10709 Woodland Avenue East
..... (253) 848-8939
Friendly Chevrolet of Puyallup400 River Road
.....(253)845-9566
T and S Specialties5517-106th Street East
..... (253) 848-9474

Tacoma

Automotive Specialists11111 Golden Given Rd East
.....(253) 536-9029
Courtwright Diesel 1601 Bay Street
.....(253) 383-4888
Titus Will Ford3606 South Sprague Avenue
..... (253) 475-4151

Consumer Resources Centers Office of the Attorney General

E-mail protect@atg.wa.gov

Web site www.wa.gov/ago/consumer

Statewide (800) 551-4636 Voice
(800) 276-9883 Hearing Impaired (TDD)

Tacoma (253) 593-2904 Voice

Repair Waiver Checklist ☒

Vehicle fails an emission check.

The process starts here. **Money spent on maintenance or repairs prior to the initial test does not count towards a waiver.**

☐ Repairs are not covered under warranty (gasoline vehicles only).

You may be entitled to free repairs at a dealership or other authorized warranty repair facility. Most warranties cover only normal use and wear. Some damaged parts may not be covered under warranty.

- ◆ For more information on warranty coverage, consult your owner's warranty information book.

☐ Repairs are performed.

- ◆ By an Ecology Authorized Emission Specialist (AES) performs repairs at an Ecology authorized repair facility.
- ◆ You give your Vehicle Emission Test Report to the AES technician who will fill it out and return to you after doing the repair work. You must submit the test report(s) when applying for a waiver.
- ◆ The AES technician signs, numbers, and records the final emission readings on a pre-printed, itemized repair invoice/receipt on which your vehicle is identified.
- ◆ Your repair/diagnosis costs reach (at minimum) \$150.00 for all vehicles.
- ◆ All work is directed at correcting your vehicle's emission check failure.

☐ Vehicle is re-checked at an Emission Check Station after the repair work is completed.

- ◆ **Vehicle passes the re-check.** The Emission Check Station staff will issue a Vehicle Emission Test Report, which certified your vehicle has passed. Present or send it to your vehicle licensing agent when registering your vehicle (**if your vehicle passes, disregard the rest of this checklist**).
- ◆ **Vehicle fails the re-check—*continue through this checklist*.**
- ◆ **Vehicle passes a visual inspection.** To obtain a waiver your vehicle must have:
 1. An engine that is correct for your vehicle. (Contact Department of Ecology for details.)
 2. All required emission control components in place and operational (**factory stock – see under hood label**).

NOTE: There is no cost limit for replacing removed, altered, or tampered emission control components. The cost limit applies only to *repairs* to otherwise intact engines and their pollution control systems.

☐ Repairs were appropriate. Test station office staff will review repair documentation and final test results to verify that:

1. Cause(s) of failure was diagnosed;
2. Repairs were directed at cause(s) of failure.

☐ Certificate of Acceptance (repair waiver) is issued to you by the Emission Check Station office staff. The licensing agent will accept this repair waiver in place of passing Vehicle Emission Test Report when your vehicle license is renewed/registered.

Dealing with an Auto Repair Facility:

The best time to look for an auto repair facility is before you need one, when you have the time to shop around. In looking for an auto repair facility, ask for recommendations. The best referrals are from family and friends who have had positive experiences with a repair facility. But ask the facility for references and then check them out. You can contact the Better Business Bureau or AAA to find out what kind of consumer record the facility has.

Dealing with an Auto Repair Facility *(continued)*

When you have chosen a facility you like and that is technically competent to do the work, remember two key rules: **Only work that you authorized can be performed and you should keep written records.**

The first step in dealing with a repair problem is to check and see if the parts or service you need are covered by an existing warranty. If so, ask if the repair facility will honor the parts warranty and whether it provides a written warranty on its own work. You will need an estimate that includes the condition to be repaired, parts needed, and labor charges. Be sure to determine in advance if there is a diagnostic charge. If the estimate seems high, ask for an explanation and get a second opinion before authorizing any work.

Important steps to follow when dealing with the repair facility:

1. You must ask for the damaged parts to be shown or returned to you (if you would like them) *before* the work is done.
2. If the repairs cost more than \$100, you are entitled to a written estimate. You must authorize the work to be done. The repair facility must also provide you with a written invoice after all work is performed. Compare this invoice to the original authorized estimate.
3. If the customer refuses to pay charges that are within 110 percent of the original authorized estimate (including any subsequent authorizations) the facility owner/manager can hold the car until the bill is paid. The facility must notify you and receive either your written or oral approval to do any extra work that will increase the cost more than 10 percent above the original authorized estimate.
4. Make sure you have a copy of the warranty if one is provided. Get all promises in writing.

Resolving Repair Complaints:

The hints offered above will help in getting through typical experiences at an auto repair facility. However, some problems inevitably arise.

Authorized repairs proved inadequate to repair car: Before you blame the facility owner/manager for ripping you off, consider whether you authorized the needed repairs or tried to get by with the minimum, which proved insufficient. All too often we gamble on the cheap fix and it fails.

The customer is not satisfied with the vehicle after the repair: If the facility offers a warranty, return to the facility. Discuss the situation with the owner/manager and determine where the problem lies—miscommunication, poor workmanship, or faulty parts.

Once you have identified the problem, address it. Do not become part of the problem. Get organized and be prepared to negotiate. Try to work it out in a reasonable manner with the facility owner/manager. Show copies of the estimate or other documentation that supports your position. Listen carefully to the facility's position and be prepared to compromise towards a fair solution.

No luck with the repair facility owner? Consider these options:

- ◆ The Consumer Resource Center, Office of the Attorney General, offers mediation services(see page 7)
- ◆ Ask the owner/manager to resolve the dispute through arbitration/mediation (for example, AAA, the Better Business Bureau, or a Dispute Resolution Center).
- ◆ Pursue the case through small claims court. Note—you can only sue for money in Small Claims Court. The Court cannot order your car to be fixed.
- ◆ You may need to consult an attorney for further options.

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Emission Check

You're on the Road to Cleaner Air.

HOURS: Monday – Friday 9 am to 5 pm Saturday 9 am to 1 pm
CLOSED: Sunday and State Holidays

TEST FEES: \$15.00 Cash.Check.Credit Card

Spokane Valley.16309 E. Marietta Lane

North Spokane.920 N. Hamilton

Repairing your Diesel vehicle's pollution control system

General information

**Where to find Authorized Emission Specialists
in Spokane and Surrounding areas**

Repair waiver checklist

October 26, 2005

If you require this publication in an alternate format, please contact Tami Dahlgren at (360) 407-6830
or TTY (for the speech or hearing impaired) 711 or 1 (800) 833-6388



Introduction

Today's motor vehicles are built with features to control air pollution. Unfortunately, something is the matter with your vehicle. As a result, your recent emission check revealed excessive emissions.

Repairs to vehicles with excessive emissions help provide cleaner, healthier air for all of us. This information packet describes what must be done to pass a re-check or to qualify your vehicle for a "waiver" from meeting the emission limits.

Your \$15 Emission Check fee includes **one re-check at no additional charge**. You may have as many re-checks as you wish, but only the first one is free. After that, **each additional emission check costs \$15 per test**.

Have your vehicle repaired and re-checked

About 80 percent of the vehicles that fail their initial emission check pass the re-check. Your Vehicle Emission Test Report provides data that can be useful to the person making the repairs.

You may perform the repairs yourself or you may hire someone to do them. The Department of Ecology recommends that you have the repairs done by an Ecology Authorized Emission Specialist. A list of repair facilities that employ these Specialists in Spokane County begins on Page 3. These technicians have received special training and are familiar with the Emission Check program repair requirements. **Only appropriate repairs that reduce the initial emission failure and are performed by an Ecology Authorized Emission Specialist can qualify your vehicle for a waiver.**

Finding and correcting the problem that is causing your vehicle to have high emissions will benefit your vehicle and help control air pollution. (*See below for more information on appropriate repairs.*) After repairs are made, have the vehicle re-checked at an Emission Check station. If your vehicle passes a re-check you will receive a Vehicle Emission Test Report which certifies your vehicle has passed. Present or send it to your vehicle-licensing agent when registering your vehicle.

The repair waiver

(This only applies to vehicles NOT covered under manufacturer's warranty)

The Emission Check program sets a limit on how much you must spend to repair your vehicle. If your repair costs reach this limit your vehicle may qualify for a waiver from the emission limits, subject to certain conditions. **Use the checklist on the back cover to make sure you complete all the steps of the repair waiver process.**

Examples of appropriate repairs

The following is a guide only. Vehicle emission systems and names that are associated with them vary by manufacturer and are too numerous to list here.

When a vehicle fails an opacity test

It means the concentration of smoke exceeds Washington's diesel exhaust opacity standard. Opacity is the degree to which something blocks the passage of light. Opacity is measured as a percentage. A clear window has no opacity. A brick wall has 100 percent opacity.

Excessive opacity may indicate any of a number of possible problems with the vehicle. The first step is to note the color of the smoke. A **qualified technician** can, by analyzing the exhaust smoke of a diesel engine, quickly evaluate the engine's performance and determine the source of trouble.

Evaluation of exhaust smoke to determine the cause of engine trouble should never be attempted when the engine is **not** at its proper operating temperature. For example, when the engine is too cool, the combustion chamber is not hot enough to completely burn all the fuel. This causes late ignition and, depending on the combustion temperature, produces gray to white smoke.

On the next page are some suggested causes for different smoke colors:

White smoke: Gray to white exhaust smoke emitted from an engine at operating temperature indicates that part of the fuel in the combustion chamber has not been properly ignited. This may be caused by low compression due to broken piston rings, leaking valves, or misadjusted valves.

- **Verify** the cause. Check cylinder compression, blow-by, and valve adjustment. If the engine has a misfire, locate the missing cylinder **first!** Then check the injectors and nozzles. There may be a leaking fuel nozzle, the opening pressure may be too low, or the injector orifices may be enlarged. The injection timing may be too late or the injectors may be misadjusted.

Gray or white smoke: Another cause for light colored smoke may be an excessive coolant leak into the combustion chamber.

Blue/gray smoke: This color indicates the engine is burning excessive crankcase oil. Check the crankcase oil for proper consistency and level. The crankcase oil may be too light for the ambient temperature or the crankcase may have been over-filled. Excessive oil is then thrown onto the cylinder walls and the piston rings are unable to contain it. Worn main bearings and connecting-rod bearings, as well as excessive oil pressure, can also cause oil to pass by the piston rings. Excessive oil in the air cleaner or worn guides and seals can create a dangerous situation, allowing oil to be drawn into the combustion chamber during the intake stroke; the engine could easily run away. Other possible sources of blue/gray smoke are worn turbo-chargers, super-chargers, and blower oil seals.

- Perform a compression test of the cylinders and test for excessive crankcase blowby. Check the crankcase breather, a plugged or restricted breather can increase crankcase pressures. When an oil bath cleaner is being utilized, do not forget to check for proper level. Check the valve guides and valve seals for excessive wear.

Black smoke: This indicates the fuel being injected into the combustion chamber has not burned completely. This may be caused by three basic conditions in the cylinder:

- **Poorly atomized fuel.** Check for:
 - ◆ Clogged fuel injector nozzles
 - ◆ Leaking injector nozzles
 - ◆ Low injection pressure
 - ◆ Worn nozzles
 - ◆ Excessive combustion chamber carbon build-up
- **Insufficient cylinder temperature.** Check for:
 - ◆ Low compression
 - ◆ Cooling system malfunctions
 - ◆ Over-fueling
 - ◆ Injection timing out of specifications
 - ◆ Low engine or ambient temperatures
- **Poor air turbulence.** Check for:
 - ◆ Turbo lag
 - ◆ Turbo malfunction
 - ◆ Air intake restriction
 - ◆ Engine lagging
 - ◆ Exhaust restriction
 - ◆ High altitude operation (above 1,000 feet)
 - ◆ Intake and exhaust valve timing and adjustment
- **Black smoke has many other possible causes.** Check for:
 - ◆ The intake system for restriction, and the exhaust for excessive back pressure
 - ◆ The turbo charger boosts pressure
 - ◆ Valve adjustment
 - ◆ Cylinder compression and crankcase blowby
 - ◆ Engine cooling system and the oil level, (both will affect the engine's temperature)

If the vehicle is turbo-charged, make sure the boost compensation, aneroid, or the fuel ratio control system is functioning properly.

Check the injector timing, injector adjustment, or injection-pump timing. Check the governor or fuel rack adjustment. If necessary, check the injector opening pressure and spray pattern. Poorly atomizing fuel can cause an increase in smoke density.

Excessive carbon build-up in the combustion chamber can cause quenching. Quenching occurs when the fuel injected into the combustion chamber is saturated into the carbon build-up, the flame is then cooled, prohibiting a complete burn. Any of these mechanical or operating conditions in the engine can cause black smoke.

The repair waiver

This only applies to vehicles NOT covered under manufacturer's warranty.

The Emission Check program sets a limit on how much you must spend to repair your vehicle. If your repair costs reach this limit, your vehicle may qualify for a waiver from the emission repair limits, subject to certain conditions. Use the checklist on the back cover to make sure you complete all the steps of the repair waiver process.

Emission Check Stations:

Spokane Valley: 16309 E. Marietta Lane (just off N. Sullivan)

North Spokane: 920 N. Hamilton (corner of Cataldo and Hamilton)

Emission Check Station Hours:

OPEN: Monday – Friday 9 am to 5 pm Saturday 9 am to 1 pm

CLOSED: Sunday and most State Holidays

For more Information: Department of Ecology, Spokane office, **John Poffenroth (509) 329-3468 or 329-3491**

Repair Waiver Checklist

Vehicles NOT covered under Manufacturer's Warranty

√ **If your Vehicle fails an emission check.**

- **If your vehicle is covered under the manufacturer's warranty, the vehicle must pass a re-check. For more information on warranty coverage, consult your owner's warranty information.**
- **Repairs are attempted.**
 - An Ecology Authorized Emission Specialist performs the work at an Authorized Repair Facility.
 - You give your Vehicle Emission Test Report to your specialist who fills it out and returns it to you after doing the repair work.
 - The specialist signs, numbers, and records final emission readings on pre-printed, itemized repair order/receipt on which your vehicle is identified.
 - Your repair costs reach:
 - \$150 for 1981 and newer vehicles
 - All work is directed at correcting your vehicle's initial emission check failure.
- **Vehicle is re-checked at an Emission Check station after the repair attempt.**
 - **Vehicle passes** the re-check. The Emission Check station staff will issue a Vehicle Emission Test Report, which certifies your vehicle has passed. Present or send it to your vehicle-licensing agent when registering your vehicle. ***Disregard the rest of this checklist!***
 - **Vehicle fails the emissions re-check. *Continue through this checklist.***
 - **Vehicle passes a visual inspection.** To obtain a waiver your vehicle must have:
 - An engine that is correct for your vehicle. (Contact Ecology for details).
 - All required emission control components in place and operational.

NOTE: There is no cost limit for replacing removed, altered, or tempered emission control components. The cost limit applies only to repairs to otherwise intact engines and their pollution control systems.
- **Certificate of Acceptance (repair waiver)** is issued to you by the Emission Check station staff. It will be accepted by your licensing agency in place of a passing Vehicle Emission Test Report when you register your vehicle.

Emission Check Tips:

It is important that your vehicle's engine and catalytic converter are at normal operating temperature during the emission check, to avoid unnecessary failure. Here are some tips:

- ♦ Avoid waiting. Lines tend to be shorter in the middle of the month.
- ♦ Bring your vehicle to normal operating temperature. A 10-mile drive, especially at freeway speed, accomplishes this.
- ♦ Turn off all accessories (air conditioner, lights, wipers, heater, radio, etc.) when you arrive at the test station.
- ♦ While in line, keep the engine at normal operating temperature. **DO NOT SHUT OFF THE ENGINE.**

TAKE THE SCARE OUT OF AUTO REPAIR

What should you look for when choosing a repair shop?

- Get recommendations from friends or family members; word-of-mouth is often the best advertising for a good technician.
- Ask if the technician or repair shop has experience working on the same make vehicle as yours.
- Look for certifications like an Automotive Service Excellence seal or AAA approved as well as Ecology authorized Emission Specialist. Remember, however, that certification alone is **not** an absolute guarantee of good or honest work.
- Shop around. Be sure the repair shop is capable of performing the repairs needed.

Are you sure you need repairs?

- Make sure you understand just what is covered under your vehicle warranty or extended service contract. Get it in writing. Compare warranties on repair work when shopping around for the best repair shop. Many shops offer a minimum warranty of **90 days or 4,000 miles.**
- If you live in a motor vehicle Emission Check area, review your vehicle's emission warranty. Repairs to the vehicle's emission control system may be covered by the manufacturer's warranty. Consult your owner's manual.
- Follow the owner's manual for the schedule of regular maintenance.
- You may want to consult your owner's manual or get a second opinion if you are uncertain whether the work needs to be done.

How do you know you are getting the repairs you pay for?

- Always get and keep a signed, written cost estimate for the work to be performed. Compare the estimate to the invoice when you pick up the vehicle; keep both with the car to establish service history. Request to see the parts that were replaced and save the old parts.
- Keep records of all transactions. If there is a dispute over a repair or change, try to obtain a fair settlement with the shop manager or owner. They care about their business.

Call 1 (800) 692-5082 for more information about: A wide range of auto topics including repair issues.

Attorney General's Consumer Resource Center: 1 (800) 551-4636.

- * Questions on consumer protection laws related to repair shops or complaints? OR
- * If you have a complaint or want to know the complaint history of a specific business, call your local Better Business Bureau.

Light Duty Diesel Repair Facilities Under 8,500 GVW	
Repair Facility & Address	Phone Numbers
5-Mile Auto Center 6606 N. Ash	(509) 326-4401
Appleway Chevrolet 8500 E. Sprague	(509) 927-1271
Lithia Camp Chevrolet 101 E. Montgomery	(509) 456-7840
Botzon's Automotive 211 S. Dishman Road	(509) 928-4747
Cummins Northwest 11134 W. Westbow Blvd	(509) 455-4411
Spokane Diesel Pump 628 E. Pacific	(509) 838-3556
Spokane Engine Sales 1207 E. Francis	(509) 489-1262
Mercedes Benz of Spokane 1027 W. Third	(509) 455-9100

Heavy Duty Diesel Repair Facility and Decentralized Diesel Tester OVER 8,500 GVW	
Cummins Northwest 11134 W. Westbow Blvd	(509) 455-4411
Spokane Diesel Pump 628 E. Pacific	(509) 838-3556

10/26/05:pd



Emission Check

You're on the Road to Cleaner Air.
YOU'RE ON THE ROAD TO CLEANER AIR.

State of Washington • Department of Ecology

Eastern (509) 329-3491 ♦ Southwest 1-800-453-4951 ♦ Northwest 1-800-272-3780

We can't test your vehicle.

We're sorry for the inconvenience, but we are unable to test your vehicle due to the problem(s) checked below. There is **no fee** charged at this time. **We recommend making *only* the check marked repairs or adjustment for now.**

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Time: ____ ☐ a.m. ☐ p.m.

Station No: ____

Lane No: ____

License No: ____

x ____ Mgr.

Here's why and what to do.

This will make it possible to test your vehicle. Further repairs will be needed only if your vehicle fails the emission check. Please take this notice with you when you take your vehicle in for repairs. Show it to the person who writes the work order.

Why we can't inspect your vehicle

- ☐ Exhaust system no intact
 - ☐ **Tailpipe missing or corroded.** We could not insert the sample probe far enough to get a good sample.
 - ☐ **Exhaust system leak.** We could not conduct a valid inspection. A leak can draw in fresh air which mixes with exhaust gasses. This can cause a false test result. Exhaust system leaks also can expose people inside the vehicle to harmful odor less fumes! We saw possible leaks in the:
 - ☐ Tailpipe
 - ☐ Muffler
 - ☐ Other: _____

What to do: Please have this problem repaired. We also recommend checking for and repairing any other exhaust system leaks. (Read "Notice to vehicle owner" at right.) Then return for an emission check.
- ☐ **Idle speed too high**

We cannot inspect a vehicle that idles faster than 1100 revolutions per minute (RPM) or the manufacturer's specified maximum idle speed, whichever is higher.

What to do: Please **only** have the engine idle speed adjusted to the vehicle manufacturer's specifications. (Read "Notice to vehicle owner" at right). Then return for your emission check.
- ☐ **Safety**

We observed a condition that makes it unsafe for our staff to conduct the inspection.

 - ☐ Fluid Leak
 - ☐ Overheating
 - ☐ Gas Cap Missing
 - ☐ Other: _____

What to do: Please have this condition corrected then return for your emission check.

☐ OBDII readiness codes

On Board Diagnostics systems require that after resetting or cleaning the memory on the vehicles computer system, that the vehicle must complete a manufacturers designed drive cycle before all computer monitoring systems are able to make a determination of monitor status. The monitor must be able to check the function of each system and determine if the individual sensor or emission component is operating properly.

The state regulation requires that if the **engine check light** is **off** while the vehicle is running and there are more than **2** readiness monitors **NOT READY**, FOR 1996 TO 2000 vehicles, and more than **1** readiness monitor for 2001 and newer vehicles, that the vehicle will be **REJECTED** until the appropriate monitors have completed the necessary drive cycle. Contact your vehicle dealership if there are questions about how to complete a drive cycle for your vehicle.

For more information

Please visit the test station office. Assistance also is available from the Department of Ecology.

Monday through Friday: **8:00 am to 5:00 pm**

Clark and Pierce Counties.....1 (800) 453-4951

King and Snohomish Counties.....1 (800) 272-3780

Spokane County.....(509) 329-3491

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Printed on Recycled Paper





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Euclid & Marietta in the Industrial Park)**

**North Spokane: 920 N. Hamilton (corner of Cataldo and Hamilton
across from the Gonzaga dorms)**

Repairing your Gasoline vehicle Pollution control system

General information

**Where to find Authorized Emission Specialists
in Spokane and Surrounding areas**

Repair waiver checklist

October 26, 2005

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Introduction

Today's motor vehicles are built with features to control air pollution. Unfortunately, your recent emission check revealed excessive emissions.

Repairs to vehicles with excessive emissions help provide cleaner, healthier air for all of us. This information packet describes what must be done to pass a re-check or to qualify your vehicle for a "waiver" from meeting the emission limits.

Your \$15 Emission Check fee includes **one re-check at no additional charge**. You may have as many re-checks as you wish, but only the first one is free. After that, each additional re-check costs \$15 each.

Something new to Spokane County - Gas Cap Checks

Effective 7/1/02, Spokane Emission Check stations will require that all gasoline vehicles pass a gas cap check before taking their emission test.

Why test gas caps? The gas cap is an important part of your vehicle's vapor control system. The vapor control system recovers and reuses gasoline vapors, but it can only work if the gas cap is not leaking. A sealed gas cap prevents gasoline vapors from escaping into the air, which causes air pollution and wastes fuel even when your vehicle isn't running. The Seal can appear intact yet still leak.

Which vehicles need a gas cap check? The gas cap check applies to all vehicles with an evaporative control system, starting with 1971 models. By 1985, all trucks, as well as cars, had evaporative control systems.

Will my gas cap pass the test? More than 96 percent (%) of vehicles tested in Washington will pass their gas cap check. In general the older the vehicle, the more likely the cap will fail. But sometimes even **new caps can leak, especially locking caps**.

If my gas cap fails the test, what should I do next? You should replace your gas cap with a new one and then return to the test station. If your vehicle failed **only** the gas cap test, do not return to the test lanes. Go to the station office to have your new gas cap tested. If your vehicle failed **both** the gas cap test and the emission check, return to the test lanes for a re-test.

Have your vehicle repaired and re-checked

About 80 percent of the vehicles that fail their initial emission check pass the re-check. Your Vehicle Emission Test Report provides data that can be useful to the technician making the repairs.

You may perform the repairs yourself or you may hire someone to do them. The Department of Ecology recommends that you have the repairs done by an Ecology Authorized Emission Specialist. A list of more than 109 repair facilities that employ these Specialists in Spokane County begins on Page 3. These technicians have received special training and are familiar with the Emission Check program repair requirements. **Only appropriate repairs that reduce the initial emission failure and are performed by an Ecology Authorized Emission Specialist can qualify your vehicle for a waiver.**

Finding and correcting the problem that is causing your vehicle to have high emissions will benefit your vehicle and help control air pollution. (*See below for more information on appropriate repairs.*) After repairs are made, have the vehicle re-checked at an Emission Check station. If your vehicle passes a re-check you will receive a Vehicle Emission Test Report which certifies your vehicle has passed. Present or send it to your vehicle-licensing agent when registering your vehicle.

The repair waiver

The Emission Check program sets a limit on how much you must spend to repair your vehicle. If your repair costs reach this limit your vehicle may qualify for a waiver from the emission limits, subject to certain conditions. **Use the checklist on the back cover to make sure you complete all the steps of the repair waiver process.**

Examples of appropriate repairs

The following is a guide only. Vehicle emission systems and names that are associated with them vary by manufacturer and are too numerous to list here.

Carbon Monoxide (CO) emission check failures

Carbon monoxide is partially burned fuel. It indicates that the engine is getting too much fuel and not enough air. Here are examples of appropriate repairs:

- Carburetor or fuel injection system repairs or adjustments.
- Emission control system repairs associated with air/fuel delivery.
- Oxygen sensor or computer and computer air/fuel mixture systems.

Note: A CO failure at cruise speed (2500 rpm) in most cases cannot be adjusted using air/fuel mixture screw(s), and may require professional diagnosis by a qualified technician (Authorized Emission Specialists).

Hydrocarbon (HC) emission check failures

Hydrocarbons are unburned fuel. Mechanical/electrical failures, vacuum leaks or a lean air/fuel mixture can cause HC failure. Here are examples of appropriate repairs:

- Carburetor or fuel injection system repairs or adjustments. (Fuel system is the cause of HC failure).
- Valve adjustments or repairs.
- Ignition system repairs.
- Mechanical (engine) repairs.

Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) emission check failures

Carbon dioxide is a by-product of the internal combustion engine. A leaking exhaust system or extremely high emission readings cause CO₂ failures.

- Catalytic converters and air injection tubes are the **only** applicable exhaust repairs. Other exhaust system repairs, such as mufflers and tailpipes, are not applicable toward a repair waiver because they do not reduce emissions.

Refused for high idle (above 1100 rpm)

- If you are refused a test because of high idle, you will need to have your vehicle adjusted or repaired before you can receive a test.

Note: any repairs done before an emissions test are **not** applicable towards a repair waiver.

Emission Check Stations

Spokane County:

Valley Location.....16309 E. Marietta Lane (North on Sullivan, across the river, pass Central Pre-mix, next light turn right onto Marietta, corner of Marietta & Euclid)

Northside Location.....920 N. Hamilton (corner of Cataldo and Hamilton across from the Gonzaga dorms)

Hours: OPEN: Monday thru Friday 9 am to 5 pm Saturday 9 am to 1 pm
CLOSED: Sunday and most State Holidays

For more Information: Department of Ecology, Spokane office **(509) 329-3491**

Authorized Gasoline Emission Specialists Spokane County

Important notice: This list shows repair facilities with approved emissions monitoring equipment and one or more Ecology Authorized Emission Specialist as of **October 26, 2005**. Please be aware that some technicians at a repair facility may not be Authorized Emission Specialists. Also, staff turnover may occur at any repair facility. Always request that a Department of Ecology Authorized Gasoline Emission Specialist perform your vehicle's emission repairs. You may request to see the Specialist's certificate.

<p><u>Greenacres</u></p> <p>Greenacres Auto Repair.....924-0728 N. 525 Barker Rd.</p> <p>Walker's Automotive.....922-0468 E. 19009 Appleway</p>	<p><u>Liberty Lake</u></p> <p>Alton's.....922-7771 22117 E. Country Vista Dr.</p> <p>George Gee Pontiac GMC.....927-1000 E. 21502 Mission</p>
<p><u>Mead</u></p> <p>Beeline Auto.....466-7900 N. 15821 Newport Hwy</p>	<p><u>Northside</u></p> <p>Watts Wheel North.....483-6421 E. 520 Francis</p>
Gasoline Certified Repair Shops Only	
<p>4 Day Auto 922-6543 7107 N. Campbell Rd - <i>Temp Susp</i></p>	<p>Autocraft Auto Repair 924-8738 16911 E. Sprague Ave</p>
<p>5 Mile Auto Center 326-4401 6606 N. Ash</p>	<p>Barton Jeep/Eagle 928-1301 10819 E. Sprague Ave</p>
<p>Aarons Automotive 487-7255 1923 N. Hamilton</p>	<p>Becker Buick 455-3550 636 E. Sprague Ave</p>
<p>Advanced Automotive 926-0925 112 N. Park Rd.</p>	<p>Beeline Auto 466-7900 15821 Newport Hwy</p>
<p>Advantage Automotive 922-5798 750 S. Dishman</p>	<p>Bekkerings Automotive 467-6560 8821 N. Division</p>
<p>Alton's – Hamilton 483-7777 1821 N. Hamilton</p>	<p>Bill Johnsons Auto Service 325-3895 2515 W. Wellesley</p>
<p>Alton's – Liberty Lake 922-7771 22117 E. Country Vista Dr</p>	<p>Bobs Service Center 467-5493 618 W. Francis</p>
<p>Alton's – North Point 466-7777 910 E. Holland Rd</p>	<p>Botzons Automotive 928-4747 221 S. Dishman Rd</p>
<p>Alton's – Northtown 489-7777 4504 N. Division St</p>	<p>Brian's Automotive 535-4194 6328 E. Springfield</p>
<p>Alton's – South Hill 536-7774 3030 E. 29th Ave</p>	<p>Camp Lithia Chevrolet 456-7840 106 E. Montgomery</p>
<p>Alton's – Valley 927-7778 3510 N. Sullivan Rd</p>	<p>Casey Motors 455-6969 141 S. Sheridan</p>
<p>Appleway Chevrolet 924-1150 8500 E. Sprague Ave – <i>Temp Susp</i></p>	<p>Charlys Emission Repair 924-6889 12125 E. Trent</p>
<p>Auto Doc 928-9391 6905 E. Trent</p>	<p>Dees Auto Service 326-2283 206 W. Indiana</p>
<p>Auto Service Center 536-7727 633 N. Madelia</p>	<p>Dishman Dodge 924-3250 7770 E. Sprague</p>

Divines Auto – Third 203 W. Third Ave	455-8622	J & S Automotive 4504 N. Nevada	922-2899
Divines Auto – Grand 3725 S. Grand Blvd	747-4457	Jaremko Nissan 6901 E. Sprague-Temp Susp No Tech	924-6242
Divines Auto – Pines 1520 N. Pines Rd	922-3911	Kentech Auto Repair Service 1414 N. Fiske	534-8018
Divines Auto – Wellesley 925 E. Wellesley	483-3753	Kincaid Automotive 3118 E. Gordon	487-8716
Downtown Honda 1125 W. Third Ave	353-4760	Liberty Tire & Auto AKA: American Car Care Centers 15220 E. Sprague	928-7070
Downtown Toyota 1208 W. Third Ave	455-8774	Lloyds Automotive 8517 E. Sprague Ave.	927-9034
Duanes Automotive Plus 3925 N. Monroe	325-4230	Martins Motors 3105 N. Nevada	483-1067
Dusty & Steves 10101 N. Newport Hwy	482-3029	Martins Auto Monroe 2520 N. Monroe	325-4568
Empire Ford 423 W. Third Ave	458-3230	Martins Auto Service 9125 E. Trent	928-4204
Eric's Auto Repair 3928 N. Madison	326-5294	Mechanics Pride Tire & Auto Inc 1002 W. Third Ave	747-5371
Foothills/Linc/Merc/Mazda 202 E. Foothills Dr	324-8200	Mercedes Benz of Spokane 1027 W. Third Ave – Temp Susp	455-9100
Full Throttle Automotive 1615 E. Holyoke #3	484-2300	Nelsons Towing & Repair 627 E. Francis	487-0007
Garland Auto Service 1007 W. Garland	325-4511	Northgate Imports 9501 N. Newport Hwy	467-8863
Garrys Auto Repair 11616 E. Montgomery	926-1821	Perfection Tire – 2nd 604 E. 2nd Ave	747-1164
George Gee Pontiac/GMC 21502 E. Mission	927-1000	Petes Garage 2025 E. Riverside	533-0741
Greenacres Auto Repair 525 N. Barker Rd	924-0728	Preedys Tire & Automotive 703 E. Pacific – Temp Susp	534-0417
Gus Johnson Ford 8300 E. Sprague	924-1000	Pro Automotive 3120 E. Garnet	489-5106
Hallmark Hyundai 8801 E. Sprague – Temp Susp	922-1450	Pro Tech Automotive & Towing 15716 E. Sprague	892-3694
Hills Automotive Service 2918 N. Division – Temp Susp	326-6400	Ray & Roys Auto Repair 13524 E. Sprague Ave	926-2967
Honda of Spokane 8325 E. Sprague	927-7000	Rays Truck Service 727 E. Pacific	535-3559
Hopkins Automotive 3018 N. Nevada	483-3943	Saturn of Spokane 1007 W. Second	624-6818
Howes Auto Service 4904 N. Market	701-2658	Save More Automotive 304 E. Wellesley	482-7283
Import Auto Service 3620 N. Nevada	483-3200	Sharp Automotive Inc 1306 N. Division	324-1898
Import Auto Specialist 4608 E 4th	534-2314	Silver Star Automotive 1227 W. 3 rd Ave – Ste A	835-5334
Indian Trails Service 3333 W. Indian Trails	326-0342	Spokane Auto Care/Engine Sales 1207 E. Francis	489-1262

Spokane Chrysler Plymouth 6818 E. Sprague	926-1501	V H Services 12613 E. Sprague Ave	922-1995
Stanley's Service Center 3324 Northwest Blvd	327-1460	Vandervert Automotive 319 E. Montgomery	487-7720
Street Pro Automotive 17 S. Fiske St	535-2516	Walkers Automotive 19009 E. Appleway	922-0468
Swedish Motor Car Service 1211 E. Francis	487-3308	Watts Automotive 1312 W. First Ave	747-3196
T D C Auto Repair 611 S. Dishman Mica	924-2847	Watts Wheel North 520 E. Francis	483-6421
Tiny Car Shop 811 E. Rosewood	484-5653	Wendle Ford 4727 N. Division	484-4737
Troy's Tire & Automotive 817 W. 3 rd	456-7777	Wendle at the Y 9000 N. Division	468-4046
Troy's Tire & Automotive 15409 N. Newport Hwy	468-7778	Whitworth Repair Service 11020 Newport Hwy	466-7404
Tune Tech – Valley 420 N. Pines	893-8863		
Tune Tech – Division 9029 N. Division	465-8863		
Tune Tech – Monroe 3011 N. Monroe	324-8863		

10/26/05:pd

Repair waiver checklist

✓ If Vehicle fails an emission check.

- ***If your vehicle is under warranty, the waiver does not apply. For more information on warranty coverage, consult your vehicle manufacturer.***
- **Repairs are attempted.**
 - An Ecology Authorized Emission Specialist performs the work at an authorized repair facility.
 - You give your Vehicle Emission Test Report to your specialist who fills it out and return it to you after doing the repair work.
 - The specialist signs, numbers and records final emission readings on a pre-printed, itemized repair order/receipt on which your vehicle is identified.
 - Your repair costs reach:
 - ◆ \$150 for 1981 and newer vehicles.
 - All work is directed at correcting your vehicle's initial emission check failure.
- **Vehicle is re-checked at an Emission Check station after the repair attempt.**
 - **Vehicle passes** the re-check. The Emission Check station staff will issue a Vehicle Emission Test Report, which certifies your vehicle has passed. Present or send it to your vehicle-licensing agent when registering your vehicle. ***Disregard the rest of this checklist!***
 - **Vehicle fails the emission re-check. *Continue through this checklist.***
 - **Vehicle passes a visual inspection.** To obtain a waiver your vehicle must have:
 - ◆ An engine that is correct for your vehicle. (Contact Ecology for details.)
 - ◆ All required emission control components in place and operational.

Note: There is no cost limit for replacing removed, altered, or tampered emission control components. The cost limit applies only to **repairs** that otherwise impact engines and their pollution control systems.
- **Certificate of Acceptance (repair waiver)** is issued to you by the Emission Check station staff. It will be accepted by your licensing agent in place of a passing Vehicle Emission Test Report when you register your vehicle.

Emission Check Tips

It is important that your vehicle's engine and catalytic converter are at normal operating temperature during the emission check, to avoid unnecessary failure. Here are some tips:

- Avoid waiting. Lines tend to be shorter in the middle of the month.
- Bring your vehicle to normal operating temperature. A 10 mile drive, especially at freeway speed, accomplishes this.
- Turn off all accessories (air conditioner, lights, wipers, heater, radio, etc.) when you arrive at the test station.
- While in line, keep the engine at normal operating temperature. **Do not shut off the engine.**

TAKE THE SCARE OUT OF AUTO REPAIR

What should you look for when choosing a repair shop?

- Get recommendations from friends or family members; word-of-mouth is often the best advertising for a good technician.
- Ask if the technician or repair shop has experience working on the same make vehicle as yours.
- Look for certifications like an Automotive Service Excellence seal or AAA approved as well as Ecology authorized Emission Specialist. Remember, however, that certification alone is **not** an absolute guarantee of good or honest work.
- Shop around. Be sure the repair shop is capable of performing the repairs needed.

Are you sure you need repairs?

- Make sure you understand just what is covered under your vehicle warranty or extended service contract. Get it in writing. Compare warranties on repair work when shopping around for the best repair shop. Many shops offer a minimum warranty of **90 days or 4,000 miles.**
- If you live in a motor vehicle Emission Check area, review your vehicle's emission warranty. Repairs to the vehicle's emission control system may be covered by the manufacturer's warranty. Consult your owner's manual.
- Follow the owner's manual for the schedule of regular maintenance.
- You may want to consult your owner's manual or get a second opinion if you are uncertain whether the work needs to be done.

How do you know you are getting the repairs you pay for?

- Always get and keep a signed, written cost estimate for the work to be performed. Compare the estimate to the invoice when you pick up the vehicle; keep both with the car to establish service history. Request to see the parts that were replaced and save the old parts.
- Keep records of all transactions. If there is a dispute over a repair or change, try to obtain a fair settlement with the shop manager or owner. They care about their business.

Call 1 (800) 692-5082 for more information about: A wide range of auto topics including repair issues.

Attorney General's Consumer Resource Center: 1 (800) 551-4636.

- * Questions on consumer protection laws related to repair shops or complaints?

OR

- * If you have a complaint or want to know the complaint history of a specific business, call you local Better Business Bureau at:

**508 W. 6th Ave Ste 401
Spokane WA 99204-2730
(509) 455-4200**



Certificate of Acceptance (Waiver) Checklist

- ☐ Diagnosis of OBDII failures and/or repairs *if an OBDII vehicle could not complete its last test because of "readiness monitors not ready" consider this test as the last for the purpose of issuing a waiver.*
- ☐ Original pre-printed repair receipts supplied.
- ☐ Vehicle identified on the receipt by license # _____ and / or the Vehicle Identification Number VIN # _____
- ☐ Diagnostic / repairs directed toward the failure: ☐ HC ☐ CO ☐ Opacity
- ☐ > = \$150.00, 1981 and newer \$ _____
- ☐ Diagnostic/repairs completed between first and last test.
- ☐ Diagnostic/repairs performed by A.E.S. # _____ A.E.S. shop # _____
- ☐ Vehicle passes tampering inspection.

Date: _____

Time: _____ ☐ am ☐ pm

Manager Name: _____

I.D. # _____

Ecology Representative: _____

Control #: _____

Comments:

